

Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) today announced that the Secretary of Agriculture designated Presidio County as a primary disaster area. This designation is based on damages and losses caused by flooding that occurred September 9 to September 12, 2008. Brewster, Hudspeth and Jeff Davis were named contiguous disaster counties.

Provided eligibility requirements are met, farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties are now eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Loan applications will be accepted through June 22, 2009.

"The flooding in Presidio and surrounding areas majorly impacted the entire region. So, I'm pleased that the farm operators will be able to seek relief so they can start to rebuild."

After assessing the damage, Rodriguez worked with President Bush and Gov. Rick Perry to ensure funding for the area.